

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENNA 02832 01 OF 04 292018Z

72

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01

CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2245

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 4 VIENNA 2832

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING,
27 MARCH 1974

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: NATO AHG MET ON 27 MARCH 1974
TO CONSIDER FUTURE WORK FOR THE AHG DRAFTING GROUP
AND TO GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO THE REPORT
ON THE INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST ON 25 MARCH
1974. A DECISION WAS REACHED TO ESTABLISH TWO
DRAFTING GROUPS WITHIN THE AHG TO HANDLE THE
INCREASED DRAFTING WORKLOAD ANTICIPATED PRIOR TO
THE EASTER RECESS.

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SECRET

PAGE 02 VIENNA 02832 01 OF 04 292018Z

2. US REP PROVIDED BACKGROUND TO THE OTHER AHG REPS ON THE RECENT US/UK/FRG TRILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON UTILIZING RECENTLY RECEIVED USG GUIDANCE. ALLIED REPS SEEMED GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH THIS BACKGROUND INFORMATION.

3. THE AHG APPROVED THE DRAFT PLENARY STATEMENT ON STABILIZING MEASURES TO BE PRESENTED BY THE US REP AT THE PLENARY SESSION ON 28 MARCH.

4. DISCUSSION OF THE REPORT OF THE INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST ON 25 MARCH WAS COMPLETED AT THIS AHG MEETING. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE CURRENTLY AGREED SCHEDULE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST CALLED FOR ONE MORE INFORMAL SESSION BEFORE THE EASTER RECESS, ON 1 APRIL. AHG AGREED TO STRESS WESTERN PERCEPTIONS OF COMMON GROUND FOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN EAST AND WEST IN THE NEXT INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST AND TO COUNTER EASTERN ON SYMBOLIC REDUCTIONS PROPOSAL.

5. IN CONSIDERING THE REPORT OF THE 25 MARCH INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST, THE FRG AND UK REPS EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT NO IMPLICATION BE GIVEN TO THE EAST THAT EXTENSION OF PHASE I STABILIZING MEASURES TO NON-US GROUND FORCES WAS ACCEPTABLE. THE NETHERLANDS AND CANADIAN REPS DISSENTED ON THIS VIEW, ARGUING THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING THE APPLICABILITY OF PHASE I MEASURES TO NON-US FORCES SHOULD BE PROPOSED TO THE NAC FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION. NETHERLANDS REP ADDED THAT SUCH A CONCESSION COULD BE USED AS A POSSIBLE TRADE FOR EASTERN ACCEPTANCE OF US/SOVIET GROUND FORCE REDUCTIONS IN PHASE I.

6. A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE ANOMALIES INHERENT IN TABULATING AIR, GROUND AND GROUND AIR DEFENSE FORCE PERSONNEL ON BOTH SIDES ALSO ENSUED DURING REVIEW OF THE REPORT ON THE 25 MARCH INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST. GENERAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO
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SECRET

PAGE 03 VIENNA 02832 01 OF 04 292018Z

REQUEST THE MILITARY DATA SUB-GROUP OF THE AHG TO LIST QUANTITATIVELY BY NATION AND UNIFORMED SERVICE THESE TABULATION ANOMALIES FOR REVIEW AND POSSIBLE DECISION BY THE AHG AS TO AN APPROACH TO DISCUSSING DATA FORMULATION WITH EASTERN REPS.

7. NEXT AHG MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 28 MARCH 1974.
END SUMMARY.

8. ESTABLISHMENT OF PARALLEL DRAFTINGS GROUPS

THE CHAIRMAN AD HOC GROUP (US) OPENED THE AD HOC GROUP MEETING BY ASKING IF ANY REPRESENTATIVES HAD BILATERAL CONTACTS TO REPORT. THERE WERE NONE. THE FRG REP (BEHREND) SUGGESTED THAT THIS IS PERHAPS DUE TO THE INCREASING WORK LOAD AS THE EASTER RECESS APPROACHED. GROUP AGREED.

9. THE AHG CHAIRMAN THEN TURNED TO THE NEWS MEDIA REPORTS OF THE RECENT KISSINGER TRILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE FRG AND UK IN WASHINGTON. THE CHAIRMAN STATED THAT THE UK AND FRG HAD INDIVIDUALLY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN A CONFERENCE WITH THE US. AND THAT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WERE INVITED TO THE US. THIS TRILATERAL CONSULTATION INCLUDED NUCLEAR ISSUES IN MBFR. THE TRILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WERE EXPLORATORY IN NATURE AND NO DECISIONS HAD BEEN TAKEN. THE AHG CHAIRMAN EMPHASIZED THAT ALL INVOLVED IN THE TRILATERAL CONSULTATION CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE NAC WAS THE DECISION-MAKING BODY FOR ALLIANCE POSITIONS ON MBFR. THE CANADIAN REP THANKED THE AHG CHAIRMAN FOR THIS CLARIFICATION ON THE TRILATERAL CONSULTATIONS. IN THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF NEWS MEDIA STATEMENTS, THE CANADIAN REP ADDED THAT HE FULLY SUPPORTED THE POSITION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE UK REPRESENTATIVE AS REGARDS STATEMENT BY VICE PRESIDENT FORD AND SUPPORTED BY THE AHG THAT THE UK REP SHOULD STRESS ALLIED COHESION IN DISCUSSING MBFR MATTERS WITH A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REUTERS NEWS AGENCY. GREEK REP THEN ASKED THE AHG CHAIRMAN IF HE ANTICIPATED THAT A SUMMARY OF THE RECENT TRILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON WOULD BE PROVIDED TO ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES IN VIENNA OR TO REPRESENTATIVES IN THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 VIENNA 02832 01 OF 04 292018Z

NAC. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AHG NOTED THAT THE TRILATERAL CONSULTATIONS HAD BEEN EXPLORATORY IN NATURE, THAT NO DECISIONS HAD BEEN TAKEN, AND THAT BECAUSE OF THIS NO SUMMARY WOULD BE PUBLISHED. RESPONDING TO THE PREVIOUS STATEMENT BY THE CANADIAN REP, THE UK REP STATED THAT HE HAD INDEED STRESSED ALLIED COHESION IN MBFR MATTERS IN HIS RECENT DISCUSSION WITH REUTERS REPRESENTATIVES. THE UK REP NOTED THAT THIS DISCUSSION HAD APPEARED IN VARIOUS UK NEWS SOURCES AND HAD BEEN ATTRIBUTED TO NATO DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN VIENNA.

10. AHG COSIDERATION OF THE NATO DRAFT PLENARY STATEMENT ON STABILIZING MEASURES. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AHG ASKED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DRAFTING GOUP, THE ITALIAN

DEP REP (TALIANI) TO REPORT ON THE DRAFT PLENARY STATEMENT ON STABILIZING MEASURES FOR THE NEXT PLENARY SESSION. THE ITALIAN DEP REP NOTED AN ADDITION TABLED BY THE US DELEGATION AT THE PRESENT AHG MEETING TO RESPOND TO REMARKS BY THE SOVIET REP (KHLESTOV) AT THE LAST INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST. HE STATED THAT THE AHG DRAFTING GROUP FULLY SUPPORTED THE CURRENT DRAFT PLENARY STATEMENT ON STABILIZING MEASURES.

11. THE US DEP REP (DEAN) NOTED THAT THE TWO PARAGRAPHS CONTAINED IN THE ADDITION TO THE DRAFT PLENARY

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 02832 02 OF 04 292053Z

72

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01

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INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 4 VIENNA 2832

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

STATEMENT RECOMMENDED BY THE US DELEGATION CONTAINED RATIONALE FOR LIMITING STABILIZING MEASURES FOR

PHASE I TO US AND SOVIET FORCES AND SUPPORTING ARGUMENTATION FOR THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE RECOMMENDED STABILIZING MEASURES TO UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS. THE US DEP REP RECOMMENDED MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGES TO THE TEXT OF THE DRAFT PLENARY STATEMENT FOR CLARITY AND STRENGTHENING OF ARGUMENTATION. THE UK REP STATED THAT REFERENCES IN THE US PROPOSED ADDITION TO THE DRAFT PLENARY STATEMENT DEALING WITH THE THEORETICAL POSSIBILITY OF STABILIZING MEASURES IN PHASE II SHOULD BE DELETED AS IT WAS NOT APPROPRIATE TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE WITH THE EAST AT THIS TIME. ALL
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PAGE 02 VIENNA 02832 02 OF 04 292053Z

AGREED. THE REMAINDER OF THE ADDITION TO THE DRAFT PLENARY STATEMENT RECOMMENDED BY THE US DELEGATION WAS APPROVED BY THE AHG.

12. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AHG RECOMMENDED THAT THE MEMBERS NOW TURN TO THE TEXT OF THE DRAFT PLENARY STATEMENT ON STABILIZING MEASURES. THE UK REP RECOMMENDED A CHANGE TO THE TEXT WHICH WOULD INCREASE EMPHASIS ON THE FACT THAT THE STABILIZING MEASURES PROPOSED BY NATO TO THE EAST WERE INTENDED TO APPLY ONLY TO THE FIRST PHASE OF REDUCTIONS. THIS CHANGE WAS APPROVED BY THE AHG.

13. THE REMAINDER OF THE TEXT OF THE DRAFT PLENARY STATEMENT ON STABILIZING MEASURES, INCLUDING THE ADDITION PROPOSED BY THE US DELEGATION, AS MODIFIED BY THE AHG, WAS APPROVED.

14. FURTHER AHG CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST ON MARCH 25, 1974. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AHG ASKED THE MEMBERS IF THERE WAS ANY FURTHER COMMENT ON THE REPORT OF THE MARCH 25 INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST. THE UK REP ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION AS TO WHAT WAS NOW AGREED WITH THE EAST IN TERMS OF MEETING DATES AND AGENDA FOR SUBSEQUENT INFORMAL SESSIONS. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AHG STATED THAT, AS INDICATED IN THE REPORT, AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED FOR A MEETING ON APRIL 1. HE NOTED THAT THE SOVIETS DID NOT WANT TO MEET ON APRIL 8, AS PROPOSED BY ALLIED REPS, APPARENTLY DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE SOVIETS WISHED TO DEPART VIENNA IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE LAST FORMAL SESSION ON APRIL 9. THE AHG CHAIRMAN FURTHER NOTED THAT AN APRIL 5 INFORMAL SESSION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE EAST, WOULD NOT BE A GOOD DATE FOR THE US REP DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE US REP WOULD BE IN BRUSSELS ON THAT DATE REPORTING TO THE NAC. THE AHG CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED THAT THE WEST NOT PRESS FOR

ANOTHER INFORMAL SESSION AFTER THE NEXT SESSION ON
APRIL 1 UNLESS NEW ITEMS OF SUBSTANCE AROSE IN THE
APRIL 1 SESSION. AS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT
INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST, THE AHG CHAIRMAN NOTED
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 VIENNA 02832 02 OF 04 292053Z

THAT THE TWO TOPICS AGREED FOR DISCUSSION WOULD BE THE
PHASE I US/SOVIET REDUCTIONS PROPOSED BY THE WEST AND
THE EAST'S PROPOSED SYMBOLIC REDUCTIONS. GROUP AGREED.

15. THE ITALIAN REP (CAGIATI) ASKED IF THE WEST SHOULD
NOT IN THE NEXT INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST STRESS
THE WEST'S INTERPRETATION OF POINTS OF COMMON GROUND
OR APPARENT AGREEMENT AS THE SOVIETS HAD DONE IN THE
LAST INFORMAL SESSION. THE AHG CHAIRMAN AGREED THAT
THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA, AND THE AHG AGREED TO INCLUDE
THIS COMMON GROUND ARGUMENTATION IN THE INTRODUCTORY
SEGMENT OF THE SPEAKING NOTES FOR THE NATO REPS FOR THE
NEXT INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST. THE UK REP ADDED
THAT IN THESE SPEAKING NOTES THE WEST SHOULD MAKE CLEAR
THAT THE WEST DID NOT FIND COMMON GROUND WITH THE EAST
ON THE CONCEPT OF SYMBOLIC REDUCTIONS. THE UK REP
NOTED THE REPORT (SEE REPORT OF MARCH 26 AHG MEETING)
OF THE BELGIAN REP ON THE BILATERAL CONTACT WITH SOVIET
AMBASSADOR IN BRUSSELS, IN WHICH THE SOVIET REPS HAD
ALLEGED THAT THE EAST AND WEST WERE APPROACHING COMMON
GROUND ON SYMBOLIC REDUCTIONS. THE UK REP STRESSED
THAT THE WEST MUST AVOID ANY IMPLICATION OF ACCEPTING
THE CONCEPT OF SYMBOLIC REDUCTIONS. THE ITALIAN REP
SUPPORTED THE UK ON THE POINT THAT SYMBOLIC REDUCTIONS
SHOULD BE REJECTED.

16. SACEUR REP (GRIFFIN) ASKED IF DURING THIS LAST
INFORMAL SESSION THE SOVIET REP HAD INDEED ASKED THE
US IF IT MIGHT REDUCE ITS AIRCRAFT COMMITMENT TO
QUICK REACTION ALERT IN THE CONTEXT OF SOVIET
ACCEPTANCE OF STABILIZING MEASURES. THE AHG
CHAIRMAN ANSWERED THAT THE SOV REP HAD ASKED THIS
QUESTION IN AN OBLIQUE WAY BUT HAD BEEN TOLD THAT
THERE WAS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN US QUICK REACTION
ALERT COMMITMENTS AND STABILIZING MEASURES.

17. THE NETHERLANDS REP (QUARLES) STATED THAT
THE WEST WOULD PROBABLY NEED TO PREPARE ANSWERS
TO THE QUESTIONS ASKED BY THE SOVIET REPS AT THE
LAST INFORMAL SESSION, FOR EXAMPLE THE QUESTION
ABOUT QUICK REACTION ALERT, FOR SPEAKING POINTS FOR
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PAGE 04 VIENNA 02832 02 OF 04 292053Z

ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE NEXT INFORMAL SESSION. THE NETHERLANDS REP STRESSED THAT THE POINT SHOULD BE BROUGHT HOME TO THE SOVIET REPS THAT THE MENTION BY THE SOVIETS OF QUICK REACTION ALERT COMMITMENTS IN THE CONTEXT OF STABILIZING MEASURE WAS COMPLETELY BESIDE THE POINT. THE AHG CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT THE WEST HAD A PREPARED AND APPROVED ANSWER ON QUICK REACTION ALERT IN THE EVENT THE SOVIETS RETURNED TO THIS POINT IN THE NEXT INFORMAL SESSION. AS A POINT OF CLARIFICATION, THE UK REP ASKED IF THE SOVIETS IN FACT HAD AN EQUIVALENT OF QUICK REACTION ALERT IN THE NATO GUIDELINES AREA. THE SACEUR REP STATED THAT INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT WAS REALLY NOT DEFINITIVE. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT QUICK REACTION ALERT IS A DEFENSIVE POSTURE WHICH WOULD BE CONTINGENT UPON A PERCEPTION AS TO WHICH SIDE MIGHT INITIATE A CONFLICT, AND SO MIGHT NOT BE PERCEIVED AS AN OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT BY THE SOVIETS.

18. THE AHG CHAIRMAN ASKED THE OSD REP TO COMMENT ON THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE SOVIET QUICK REACTION ALERT. THE OSD REP STATED THAT THE NUMBER OF SOVIET NUCLEAR WEAPONS DEPLOYED FORWARD IN EASTERN EUROPE WAS CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN THAT IN NATO. HE STATED THAT SOVIET AIR FORCE UNITS IN THE NATO GUIDELINES AREA PROBABLY DID HAVE SOME SORT OF ALERTING SYSTEM FOR NUCLEAR STRIKES. HOWEVER, THIS SYSTEM WAS NOT NEARLY AS ORGANIZED AND STRUCTURED AS THAT OF NATO AIR FORCES. THE OSD REP FURTHER NOTED THAT THE MAIN ELEMENT OF THE SOVIET THEATER NUCLEAR STRIKE FORCE WAS NOT DEPLOYED FORWARD. THIS ELEMENT, SOVIET MR/IRBM'S AND MEDIUM BOMBERS, WAS LOCATED IN THE WESTERN DISTRICTS OF THE USSR. THE OSD REP CONCLUDED THAT THERE WAS ESSENTIALLY NO FEW QUICK REACTION ALERT CONCEPT IN EFFECT FOR SOVIET UNITS DEPLOYED FORWARD IN THE NATO GUIDELINES AREA.

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 02832 03 OF 04 292113Z

72
ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01

CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

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INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T SECTION 3 OF 4 VIENNA 2832

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

19. THE NETHERLANDS REP WONDERED WITH REGARD TO THE
KHLESTOV QUESTION ON GROUND AND AIR FORCE PERSONNEL
DATA WHAT THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE WAS REALLY AFTER.
WAS HE ATTEMPTING TO INFLUENCE THE INCLUSION OF AIR
MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING REDUCTION? THE
NETHERLANDS REP NOTED THAT INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER
IN THE COMMON CEILING CONCEPT MIGHT WELL SUBMERGE THE
GROUND FORCE DISPARITY IN CENTRAL EUROPE. HE
RECOMMENDED THAT MILITARY EXPERTS WITHIN THE AHG LOOK
CLOSELY AT THE INHERENT ISSUES IN AIR AND GROUND
FORCE PERSONNEL DATA. HE FURTHER NOTED THAT
DISCUSSION BETWEEN EAST AND WEST OF DATA ON NON-US
AND NON-SOVIET FORCES WAS PREMATURE. ON THE SUBJECT
ON STABILIZING MEASURE, THE NETHERLANDS REP ASKED
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PAGE 02 VIENNA 02832 03 OF 04 292113Z

RHETORICALLY WHY STABILIZING MEASURES COULD NOT BE APPLIED TO ALL FOR-
CES. HE NOTED THAT THE ORIGINAL
CONCEPT WHICH NATO DEVELOPED DID CALL FOR APPLICATION
OF STABILIZING MEASURES TO THE FORCES OF ALL
PARTICIPANTS. HE SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THE WEST
MIGHT RE-STUDY THIS ISSUE AND RETURN TO THE
CONCEPT OF HAVING STABILIZING MEASURE APPLY TO THE
FORCE OF ALL PARTICIPANTS IF PRESSED ON THIS POINT
BY THE EAST. THE NETHERLANDS REP NOTED THAT

HIS CONCESSION MIGHT BE USED AS A BASIS TO GET THE SOVIETS TO ACCEPT THE CONCEPT OF US/SOVIET REDUCTIONS IN PHASE I. IN ANY EVENT, HE RECOMMENDED THAT THE QUESTION OF WEDENING THE APPLICABILITY OF STABILIZING MEASURES TO OTHER NATIONAL FORCES BE REFERRED TO THE NAC.

20. WITH REGARD TO DATA QUESTIONS, THE UK REP STATED THAT THE WEST NEEDED A DETAILED BREAKOUT OF ANOMALIES IN COUNTING GROUND AND AIR FORCES FOR CONSIDERATION OF HOW TO PROCEED ON THIS ISSUE WITH THE EAST. THE UK REP AGREED THAT DISCUSSION OF RESOLVING THESE ANOMALIES SHOULD NOT BE INITIATED WITH THE EAST UNLESS BASIC DATA AS TO FORCE STRENGTHS WERE ADDRESSED FIRST. UK REP NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT SOME PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE IN THAT THE SOVIETS HAD NOW EXPRESSED A WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS DATA RELATED ISSUES. THE UK REP STRONGLY ENCOURAGED ADDRESSAL OF DATA QUESTIONS BY MILITARY EXPERTS WITHIN THE AHG AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT THE EAST BE TOLD THAT THE WEST HAD ALREADY PROVIDED BASIC DATA FOR NEGOTIATIONS. IT WAS NOW UP TO THE EAST TO PROVIDE ITS VIEWS AS TO THE ACCURACY OF THESE FIGURES.

21. THE FRG REP STATED THAT IN HIS OPINION THE SOVIET OBJECTIVE IN STRESSING DATA ANOMALIES ON AIR AND GROUND FORCES IN THE FRG HAD NOT BEEN AN ATTEMPT TO GET AIR FORCE MANPOWER INTO THE COMMON CEILING. THE FRG REP NOTED THAT IN FACT THE SOVIET REP HAD ASKED THAT AGREEMENT BE REACHED ON WHAT CONSTITUTED GROUND FORCES FOR NEGOTIATING PURPOSES. THE FRG RECOMMENDED THAT THE WEST INDICATE INTEREST IN THE POINT BUT NOT TAKE ACTION IN IT UNTIL AFTER THE EASTER RECESS. ON THE
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PAGE 03 VIENNA 02832 03 OF 04 292113Z

QUESTION OF CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ON THE NATO SIDE, THE FRG REP RECOMMENDED THAT IF NECESSARY THE WESTERN REPS INDICATE TO THE EAST THAT THESE CIVILIAN PERSONNEL INCLUDED A VAST MAJORITY OF COOKS, BAKERS, SALES STORE PERSONNEL, ETC., MOST OF WHOM WERE NON-US CITIZENS, WITH NO INHERENT MILITARY COMBAT VALUE. THE FRG FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT IT BE POINTED OUT TO THE EASTERN REPS THAT THE WARSAW PACT HAS AN ADVANTAGE IN THIS CONTEXT, IN THAT ALL OF ITS BEHIND-THE-LINES SUPPORT PERSONNEL ARE SOLDIERS WITH A DEFINITE COMBAT POTENTIAL. THE FRG REP RECOMMENDED THAT THIS ISSUE NOT BE SURFACED UNLESS THE EAST RAISED IT AGAIN. THE AHG CHAIRMAN ADDED THAT HE SUPPORTED THE VIEWS OF THE FRG REP ON PERSONNEL DATA ISSUES. HE STATED THAT THE WEST SHOULD NOW ENCOURAGE THE SOVIETS TO DEFINE WHAT GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL ARE, FOR PURPOSES OF NEGOTIATIONS. THE ITALIAN REP AGREED AND ASKED IF THE

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE GROUND FORCES OF THE TWO SIDES
WOULD BE SIGN
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PAGE 01 VIENNA 02832 04 OF 04 292026Z

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01

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INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T SECTION 4 OF 4 VIENNA 2832

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

PREVIOUS DISCUSSION BY THE EAST. THE ITALIAN REP
SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THE POINT OF BROADENING THE
APPLICABILITY OF STABILIZING MEASURES COULD BE REAISED
IN THE ASSESSMENT SECTION OF THE PENDING AHG REPORT TO
THE NAC AND NATIONAL CAPITALS.

24. THE NETHERLANDS REP EMPHASIZED THAT AT SOME POINT
THE POSSIBLE APPLICATION OF STABILIZING MEASURES TO THE
FORCES OF ALL PARTICIPATING NATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE DEALT
WITH, PARTICULARLY IF SUCH A MOVE WOULD OBTAIN SOVIET
AGREEMENT ON A FIRST PHASE CONSISTING OF US AND SOVIET
REDUCTIONS. HE FELT THAT THIS ISSUE SHOULD BE STUDIED
IN DEPTH IN ADVANCE SO THAT THE WEST WOULD BE PREPARED

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PAGE 02 VIENNA 02832 04 OF 04 292026Z

TO ADDRESS IT WITH THE EAST AS REQUIRED. THE ISSUE SHOULD AT LEAST BE DRAWN TO THE ATTENTION OF THE NAC AND NATIONAL CAPITALS. THE NETHERLANDS REP STRESSED THAT HE WAS NOT TRYING TO BRING THE FORCES OF ALL PARTICIPATING NATIONS INTO STABILIZING MEASURES AT THIS TIME. THE US DEP REP SUGGESTED THAT THE AHG MIGHT WANT TO LIST THIS ISSUE IN THE "QUESTIONS FOR CAPITALS AND NAC" SECTION OF THE PENDING AHG REPORT AS A POTENTIAL PROBLEM, WHILE NOT MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO ITS RESOLUTION.

25. THE UK REP WONDERED IF THE QUESTION OF APPLICABILITY OF STABILIZING MEASURES TO ALL PARTICIPATING NATIONS MIGHT NOT BE CONNECTED WITH THE QUESTION OF A FORCE FREEZE IN SOVIET THINKING. IN OTHER WORDS, TO PUT A GENERAL STOP ON FORCE LEVELS AND ACTIVITIES IN A NON-CIRCUMVENTION AND THE FORCE FREEZE CONCEPT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN THE SAME CONTEXT FOR ANALYTICAL PURPOSES. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AHG ASKED THAT THE AHG DRAFTING GROUP BEGIN TO LOOK AT THESE QUESTIONS. HE NOTED THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE STATED THAT STABILIZING MEASURES SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED IN FURTHER DETAIL UNTIL ADDITIONAL PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE ON NEGOTIATING FORCE REDUCTIONS. BECAUSE OF THIS SOVIET POSITION, THE AHG CHAIRMAN STATED THAT HE FELT THE TIMING AS TO SURFACING ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON STABILIZING MEASURES WAS UP TO THE WEST.

26. THE NETHERLANDS REP ASKED IF THE COMPOSITION OF THE NATO TEAM FOR THE NEXT INFORMAL SESSIONS WITH THE EAST HAD BEEN DECIDED. THE AHG CHAIRMAN STATED THAT THIS QUESTION WOULD BE ADDRESSED AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE AHG ON 28 MARCH. HE STATED THAT THE AHG WOULD ALSO AT THAT TIME CONSIDER THAT PORTION OF THE AHG REPORT TO THE NAC AND NATIONAL CAPITALS DEALING WITH QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION DURING THE EASTER RECESS. THE AHG CHAIRMAN THEN ADJOURNED THE MEETING. HUMES

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